

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences mailed October 1, 2009. *Claims 1-9 and 11-40 are allowed.*

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly nor in combination, the claimed limitations of "implementing multiple tunneling protocols by providing a finite set of tunnel interfaces, each tunnel interface characterized by a set of tunnel specific attributes, a first of said tunnel interfaces being associated with one tunneling protocol and a second of said tunnel interfaces being associated with a second tunneling protocol different from said first tunneling protocol" as stated in claims 1, 15 and 22 and similarly stated in claims 9 and 31. These limitations, in conjunction with other limitations in the independent claim, are not specifically disclosed or remotely suggested in the prior art of record. A review of claims 1-9 and 11-40 indicated claims 1-9 and 11-40 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian J. Gillis whose telephone number is (571)272-7952. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing F. Chan can be reached on 571-272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Brian J Gillis
Examiner
Art Unit 2441

/B. J. G./
Examiner, Art Unit 2441
10/15/2009
/Larry D Donaghue/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454